



# PRESS RELEASE

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## **CITY GAINS MOMENTUM IN POTHOLE ASSAULT** *WEEKEND BLITZ STEPS UP AGGRESSIVE POTHOLE ATTACK*

INDIANAPOLIS – The Department of Public Works (DPW) was out in force over the weekend as 16 crews used more than 137 tons of hot-mix asphalt to combat the city's worst potholes as part of the most aggressive street improvement strategy the city has ever seen.

Following a 12-hour extended effort on Friday, March 19, and a 2-day attack on potholes earlier this month, city patching crews continued their aggressive strike on potholes formed as a result of severe winter freeze/thaw cycles. The March blitz events have allowed city patch crews to close out 821 repair work orders using more than 270 tons of asphalt. This year's 3-tier strategy to combat pothole formation and repairs is the city's most aggressive ever including better repair methods, extensive crack-sealing and more street resurfacing. The 2010 \$30 million resurfacing budget marks the largest funding investment ever made in repaving major and residential streets.

In 2009, the city implemented the Chuckhole Kaizen Response to improve the repair process to address better planning, scheduling, and routing of pothole work. The city also purchased 4 new crack-sealing machines to crack-seal 300 lane miles of streets vs. only 49 lanes miles done prior to 2008. By spring of 2010, the city expects to have completed more than 1,100 lane miles of crack-sealing in the most expansive crack-sealing effort ever in Indianapolis.

Results have already been positive. Pothole repair cycle-times have steadily improved from 2008 when the average response time was 19 days and from 2009 when the average was 8.14 days. This is dramatic progress as response times are now down to about 5 days.

Total pothole complaints have averaged 10% less each month from July 2009 through 2010 vs. the same periods in 2008 when pothole totals reached record breaking numbers as a result of minimal preventative maintenance work prior to 2008.

Marking another major first, the city plans to invest more than \$87 million in transportation improvement projects this year. The investment is a result of federal ARRA stimulus and other funds. \$8 million of the total investment will be used to repave streets in residential neighborhoods. Funds planned for repaving work in residential neighborhoods in 2010 rival the city's entire repaving budget of \$10 million in 2007.

To report a pothole online visit: <http://www.indy.gov/eGov/Mayor/Pages/Pothole.aspx>.  
You may also call the Mayor's Action Center (MAC) at 327-4622 to report a pothole.

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